

2003 NJ Wild Turkey Hunting Season Information and Permit Application



NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF Fish and Wildlife

www.njfishandwildlife.com

Application Period Closes February 22, 2003

Changes for 2003 Turkey Seasons

Turkey Hunting Area (THA) 21, which encompasses parts of Cumberland, Salem, Gloucester and Atlantic Counties, has exhibited an increasing spring harvest for many years. That harvest is occurring at a rate of over three gobblers per square mile of habitat. In fact, THA 21 produced the third highest harvest (357 birds) in the state during the 2002 Spring Gobbler Season. This increase is testament to the management activities, such as trap and transfer and habitat enhancement, which took place in this area during the 1990's. Because of the good condition of the turkey population in THA 21 and the continued growth of the spring harvest, the Fish and Game Council has provided for the opening of this area for fall turkey hunting. The THA's open to hunting for the 2003 Fall Turkey Season are: 1 – 11, 20 and 21.

Youth Turkey Hunting Program

A special youth turkey hunting program is designed to ensure all applicants 10 to 16 years of age* will receive their first choice permit request in the first lottery for the Spring and Fall Turkey Season. Permits awarded to youth hunters will not be counted as part of the permit quota. The Fish and Game Council and the Division of Fish and Wildlife recognize that a quality hunting experience such as turkey hunting with a properly licensed adult will be fondly remembered for years and has a positive influence towards maintaining our hunting heritage in New Jersey.

*if using a Youth License

The special statewide youth turkey hunting day is Saturday, April 12, 2003

- * Turkey hunters 10 to 16 years of age using a Youth License
- * Must possess a valid spring turkey hunting permit
- * Must be accompanied by a properly licensed, non-shooting adult age 21 or older
- * Considered an **extension** of the regular season permit held by the youth
- * If youth hunter harvests a turkey on this youth hunting day, that permit is no longer valid
- * All other spring turkey hunting regulations shall apply

The Division encourages properly licensed adults age 21 or older to use this opportunity to "Take a Kid Hunting"! If the adult is selected for the same Turkey Hunting Area (zone) but a different hunting period from the youth (weeks A through G), the adult may take the youth hunting with them during the adult's hunting period. The youth's permit will still be valid. When hunting with an adult during a hunting period

not designated on the youth's permit, the youth must be under the direct supervision of the adult. For the purposes of this section, direct supervision is defined as both the youth permittee and the adult set together at the same location, hunting as a unit, not hunting independently for dif-

2003 Wild Turkey Season Dates Spring Season

Special Youth Turkey Hunting Day: Saturday, April 12, 2003

- A. Monday, April 14 Friday, April 18, 2003
- B. Monday, April 21 Friday, April 25, 2003
- C. Monday, April 28 Friday, May 2, 2003
- D. Monday, May 5 Friday, May 9, 2003
- E. Monday, May 12 Friday, May 16; Monday, May 19 - Friday, May 23, 2003
- G. Saturdays: April 19, April 26, May 3, May 10 and May 17, 2003

Fall Season

H . Monday, October 27 - Saturday, November 1, 2003

ferent birds. Youths may still hunt during the hunting period designated on their turkey permit, but the season bag limit remains at one turkey. For additional information on the youth turkey hunting program, please call the turkey permit hotline at 609-292-9192.

Three Permit Lotteries

Hunters may apply for three turkey permits through the mailin lottery using the same application. The Division will conduct three random lotteries: the first two for the spring turkey season, the third lottery for the fall season. There will be only one lottery for the fall season due to the limited number of permits available. Hunters may enter only once for each of the three lotteries. You may apply only once even if you have both a firearm and archery license. Therefore, DO NOT SEND MORE THAN ONE APPLICATION.

Spring Gobbler Season

First Lottery:

- * Selects applicants from "Spring Season First Lottery" section of permit application
- * Refer to "2003 Wild Turkey Season Dates" section for important information on the structure of turkey hunting segments
- * The youth turkey hunting program is designed to ensure all applicants aged 10 to 16 years of age, that are still hunting on the Youth License, will receive their first choice permit request in the first lottery for spring season. These permits will not be counted as part of the permit quota.

continued from front page

Second Lottery:

- * Assigns permits not issued (leftover) from first lottery to applicants from the second lottery portion of the application
- * Selects applicants independent of the first lottery
- * Youth permit requests for the second lottery will receive the same treatment as all other permit requests. Permits are not guaranteed and will be selected independent of the first lottery.

If you request the same turkey hunting area and hunting period in both spring season lotteries, you may receive two permits for the same area and hunting period. This might happen if you list the same areas and hunting periods in the first and second lottery even if listed in a different order. Permits will not be exchanged if you received the permits you requested on your application. Consider your requests carefully! Submit the correct fee to the address on the application. Permits and non-selection notices will be mailed in early April, 2003.

Fall Turkey Season

One lottery, only:

- * Fall season lottery will be run after the spring lotteries
- *One, six-day fall season hunting segment in Turkey Hunting Areas 1 through 11, 20 and 21
- *Complete the "Fall Season Lottery" portion of turkey permit application
- *Submit correct fee to address on the application
- *The youth turkey hunting program is designed to ensure all applicants 10 to 16 years of age, who are still hunting on the Youth License, will receive their first choice permit request in the first lottery for fall season. These permits will not be counted as part of the permit quota.
- * Permits and non-selection notices will be mailed by early July, 2003



Disabled Veteran's Turkey Permits

Recent legislation provides for the issuance of free hunting licenses and permits for resident disabled veterans.

For the purposes of this program, the legislation defines Disabled Veterans as: "...any resident of New Jersey who has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active service in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and who has been declared by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, or its successor, to have a service-connected disability of any degree..."

Disabled Veteran's who are on our database will be mailed a

special 2003 Disabled Veteran Turkey Permit Application. Disabled Veteran Licenses, applications for licenses and applications for permits can also be obtained at all Division field offices, the Trenton office, and our website at www.njfishandwildlife.com.

Disabled Veteran Applicants:

- 1. Documentation of currently receiving benefits for a service connected disability must be presented to obtain the free license. Applicants must first have a Disabled Veteran license to obtain a free disabled veteran turkey permit.
- 2. Applicants must fill out only one special 2003 Disabled Veteran Turkey Permit Application. **Do not complete the regular application found in this supplement.**
- 3. Applicants are entitled to one free spring season permit and one free fall season permit. Additional permits must be purchased at the regular price of \$21.

Using a Disabled Veteran Application does not guarantee the applicant of permits, nor does it give the applicant preference in the lottery.

Application Tips and Procedures

Increase Your Chance of Receiving a Permit

To obtain your preferred permit(s), be certain your application is correct, complete, and mailed on time. Double-check the instructions before mailing your application. Print neatly and have a friend check your application.

Certain Turkey Hunting Areas are extremely popular. These areas are traditionally applied for by more hunters than there are permits available (over-subscribed). A table of permit quotas and first choice requests for each area is provided on the map page inside to assist your decision.

When deciding on your first, second, and third choices, consider where and when you plan to hunt. Choose your favorite area and week as a first choice in the FIRST lottery. **Do not list popular areas or weeks as second or third choices in the first lottery, and do not list popular areas or weeks for any choice in the second lottery.** Those popular areas and weeks are unlikely to be available. Permits cannot be exchanged and money cannot be refunded for unwanted permits. Give your choices some thought, but in any case, make sure you have a place to hunt BEFORE submitting your application.

A limited number of fall season permits are available in Areas 1 through 11, 20 and 21. We anticipate that all permits will be sold through the lottery.

Complete the Application

- * Persons whose license privileges are revoked are not eligible to apply.
- * Complete each section of the application.
- * It is a violation to submit more than one application for the turkey permit lotteries. Persons applying more than once are subject to fines and will be automatically marked a non-winner by computer edits. Hunters may apply only

once even if you have both a firearm and archery license. Once you receive a permit, you may choose to hunt with either gun or bow, provided you are properly licensed, even if you did not apply using the license number for that sporting arm.

- * For the spring season, enter your first, second and third choices for the turkey hunting area and hunting period under the "First Lottery" section of the application. If you will only accept a permit for one zone and period, leave the second and third choices blank.
- * Hunters wanting a second permit must complete the "Second Lottery" section. Do not apply for over-subscribed areas in the second lottery. Consult the permit quota table to determine which zones are likely to be available for the second lottery.
- * REMEMBER: The permit fee for the first lottery is \$21.00. For both first and second lotteries, the fee is \$42.00. Apply for both lotteries using one application.
- * For the fall season, enter your first, second and third choices for the turkey hunting area under the "Fall Season Lottery" portion of the application and include an additional \$21.00. As in the spring lottery, if you will only accept a permit for one zone, leave the second or third choices blank. Valid turkey hunting areas for the 2003 fall season are: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 20 and 21. Any other choice will be rejected and will be a wasted opportunity.
- * Acceptable payments include a check or money order made payable to NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife for the correct amount (\$21.00 for adults/\$12.00 for youths for *each* lottery request or line on the application). Do not send cash.
- * Due to changes in the hunting license format, turkey stubs are no longer required on these applications.
- * Youth applicants may enter their hunter education certificate number or a previous year's hunting license number in the space, then check the box corresponding to the number type. Your application must be postmarked by February 22, 2003.
- * If you made a mistake on your submitted application or have information missing but you filed on time, do not submit a second application. If the Division cannot correct your

application, it will be returned to you. You will be given additional time to correct and resubmit your application for the turkey permit lottery.

Notification

- Late applications will be returned by mail with a rejection notice.
- * Applicants not receiving a permit will receive a \$19.00 or \$10.00 refund [based upon the fees for adults (\$21.00) or youths (\$10.00), respectively, minus the non-refundable application fee of \$2.00] from the Division of Fish and Wildlife.
- * Spring season applicants will receive a permit or notice of non-selection in early April for each permit requested. Spring season refund checks from the State of New Jersey will be mailed in May.

Tentative Overthe-Counter Sales Locations:

Pequest Trout Hatchery & Natural Resource Education Center, Oxford, Warren County

Northern Region Office, Clinton, Hunterdon County

Central Region Office (Assunpink WMA), Robbinsville, Monmouth County

Nacote Creek Research Station, Port Republic, Atlantic County

Southern Region Office, Sicklerville, Camden County

Trenton Office, 501 E State St, Trenton, Mercer County, beginning Monday, April 7, 2003

Replacement Permits:

For lost turkey permits, please call the 24-hour Permit Hotline at (609) 292-9192 for instructions on how to obtain a duplicate.

- * Fall season applicants will receive a permit or notice of nonselection in mid-July for each permit requested. Fall season refund checks from the State of New Jersey will be mailed in late July.
- * Remember: refunds will *not* include the \$2.00 non-refundable application fee.

For questions about the permit process call the 24-hour Permit Hotline at (609) 292-9192. Questions about the status of individual spring season permits will not be answered before April 2, 2003; questions concerning fall season permits will not be answered before July 18, 2003.

continued on page 10

Special Farmer Turkey Hunting Applications

Only the owner or lessee of a farm, who resides thereon, or the immediate members of his family who also reside thereon, may apply for one special farmer turkey hunting permit for the spring and one for the fall season.

- * Applicants must be at least 10 years of age
- * Qualified farmers may apply only if their land is in a turkey hunting area open to hunting
- * Qualified farmers will receive a permit valid for the entire spring season (A through G) and the fall season if they apply for *both* permits on their Farmer Turkey Permit Application
- * Applications are available at Division offices, county agricultural agents and from conservation officers throughout the state

* The farmer bag limit is one turkey during the spring and one turkey during the fall season

NOTE: For the purpose of applying for a turkey hunting permit, the 2002-2003 Game Code defines a farm as an area of five acres or more producing a gross income in excess of \$500 and is tax assessed as farmland.

Special farmer turkey hunting permits can only be used by the person whose name is on the permit and may be used only on the farm listed on the application. All mandatory turkey checking requirements apply.

Farmers may also apply for regular spring and fall turkey hunting permits in addition to the farmer turkey permits.

Turkey Hunting Areas

Turkey Hunting Area #1

That portion of Sussex County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Routes 206 and 519 at Branchville: then northwest along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 560: then west along Rt. 560 to its intersection with the Delaware River at Dingman's Ferry; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the New York state line; then east along the New York state line to Rt. 519; then south along Rt. 519 to the point of beginning at Branchville. The islands of Namanock, Minisink and Mashipacong lying in the Delaware River are included in the Hunting

Turkey Hunting Area #2

That portion of Sussex and Warren Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 94 and the Blairstown-Millbrook Road at Blairstown; then northwest along the Blairstown-Millbrook Road to Millbrook Village; then northwest along the Millbrook-Flatbrookville Road to its intersection with the Flatbrook at Flatbrookville; then south along the west bank of the Flatbrook to its confluence with the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of, the Delaware River to the intersection with Rt. 560 at Dingman's Ferry; then east along Rt. 560 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then southeast along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 519 at Branchville; then south along Rt. 519 to its intersection with Rt. 94 at Newton; then southwest along Rt. 94 to the point of beginning at Blairstown.

Turkey Hunting Area #3

That portion of Warren and Sussex Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 80 and 94 at Columbia; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with the Delaware River at Delaware Water Gap, then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to its confluence with the Flatbrook; then north along the east bank of the Flatbrook at its intersection with the Millbrook-Flatbrookville Road at Flatbrookville; then southeast along the Millbrook-Flatbrookville Road to Millbrook Village, then south on the Blairstown-Millbrook Road to its intersection with Rt. 94 at Blairstown; then southwest along Rt. 94 to the point of beginning at Columbia. The islands of Tocks and Labar lying in the Delaware River are also included within this Hunting Area.

Turkey Hunting Area #4

That portion of Sussex, Warren and Morris Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Routes 94 and 206 at Newton; then south along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 183 at Netcong; then southeast along Rt. 183 to its intersection with Rt. 46; then west along Rt. 46 to its intersection with Rt. 94 at Columbia; then northeast along Rt. 94 to the point of beginning at Newton.

Turkey Hunting Area #5

That portion of Sussex County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Routes 206 and 517 at Andover; then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 519 at Newton; then north along Rt. 519 to the New York State Line; then east along the New York State Line to its intersection with Rt. 517; then south along Rt. 517 to the point of origin at Andover.

Turkey Hunting Area #6

That portion of Sussex, Passaic and Bergen Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 23 and Rt. 517 at Hardistonville; then north along Rt. 517 to the New York state line; then east along the New York state line to its intersection with Rt. 202; then south along Rt. 202 to its intersection with Rt. 23; then west along Rt. 23 to the point of beginning at Hardistonville.

Turkey Hunting Area #7

That portion of Sussex, Passaic and Morris Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Route 23 and Route 517 at Hardistonville; then east along Rt. 23 to its intersection with Rt. 202 at Wayne; then south and west along Rt. 202 to its intersection with Rt. 287; then south along Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 183 at Netcong; then east along Rt. 183 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 517; then northeast along Rt. 517 to the point of beginning at Hardistonville.

Turkey Hunting Area #8

That portion of Hunterdon and Warren Counties lying within a con-

tinuous line beginning at the Delaware River at Manunkachunk; then east along Rt. 46 to its intersection with Rt. 31; then south along Rt. 31 to its intersection with Rt. 12 at Flemington; then west along Rt. 12 to its intersection with the Delaware River at Frenchtown; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the point of beginning at Manunkachunk.

Turkey Hunting Area #9

That portion of Hunterdon, Warren and Morris Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 31 and 46 at Butzville; then east along Rt. 46 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then east along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then south along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 287; then south along Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 202; then south and west along Rt. 202 to its intersection with Rt. 31 at Flemington; then north along Rt. 31 to the point of beginning at Butzville.

Turkey Hunting Area #10

That portion of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, and Union Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Routes 206 and 80; then east along Route 80 to its intersection with Route 287; then north along Route 287 to its intersection with Route 202; then north and east along Route 202 to the New York state line; then east along the west shore of the Hudson River to Upper New York Bay; then south along the shore of Upper New York Bay to the Kill Van Kull; then west along the north shore of the Kill Van Kull to Newark Bay: then west across Newark Bay to its confluence with the Arthur Kill; then south along the west shore of the Arthur Kill to its intersection with Route 440; then west along Route 440 to its intersection with Route 287; then north along Route 287 to its intersection with Route 206: then north along Route 206 to the point of beginning.

Turkey Hunting Area #11

That portion of Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Route 12 and the Delaware River at Frenchtown; then east along Route 12 to its intersection with Route 202; then east along Route 202 to its intersection with Route 287; then south

and east along Route 287 to its intersection with Route 1; then south and west along Route 1 to its intersection with the Delaware River at Tienton; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the point of beginning. The islands of Skyhawks, Rush, Bull, Treasure and Eagle are included in this area.

Turkey Hunting Area #12

That portion of Mercer, Middlesex and Monmouth Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Route 1 and Route 206, then north and east along Route 1 to its intersection with Route 287; then south and east along Routes 287 and 440 to its intersection with the Arthur Kill at Perth Amboy; then south along the west shore of the Arthur Kill to Raritan Bay, then south and east along the shore of Raritan Bay to Sandy Hook; then north along the east shore of Sandy Hook Bay to the tip of Sandy Hook; then south along the Atlantic Ocean to Belmar and Route 38; then west along Route 38 to its intersection with Route 195; then west along Route 195 to its intersection with Route 524; then north along Route 524 to its intersection with Route 206; then north along Route 206 to the point of beginning.

Turkey Hunting Area #14

That portion of Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Route 1 and the Delaware River; then east along Route 1 to its intersection with Route 206; then south along Route 206 to its intersection with Route 524; then east along Route 524 to its intersection with Route 195; then east along Route 195 to its intersection with Route 38; then east along Route 38 to Belmar and the Atlantic Ocean; then south along the Atlantic Ocean to Ship Bottom; then north and west along Route 72 to its intersection with Route 70; then west along Route 70 to its intersection with Route 38 at Cherry Hill; then west along Route 38 to its intersection with Route 30; then west along Route 30 to the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the point of beginning.

Turkey Hunting Area #15

That portion of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden and Gloucester Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Routes 70 and 206 at Red Lion; then south along Route 206 to Hammonton; then south along Route 54 from Hammonton to its intersection with Route 40 at Buena; then west along Route 40 to its intersection with Route 77 at Upper Pittsgrove, then north on Route 77 to its intersection with Route 45 at Mullica Hill, then north along Route 45 to its intersection with Route 322, then west along Route 322 to its intersection with the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to its intersection with Route 30 at Camden; then east along Route 30 to its intersection with Route 38; then east along Route 38 to its intersection with Route 70; then east along Route 70 to the point of beginning.

Turkey Hunting Area #16

That portion of Burlington and Atlantic Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 206 and 70 at Red Lion; then east along Rt. 70 to its intersection with Rt. 72; then southeast along Rt. 72 to Ship Bottom and the Atlantic Ocean; then south along the Atlantic Ocean to Sea Isle

Boulevard (Route 625) in Sea Isle City; then west along Sea Isle Boulevard to its intersection with Route 9; then north along Route 9 to its intersection with Route 50; then north along Route 50 to its intersection with Route 557; then north and west along Route 557 to its intersection with Route 40; then west along Route 40 to its intersection with Route 54; then north along Route 54 to its intersection with Route 206; then north along Route 206 to the point of beginning.

Turkey Hunting Area #20

That portion of Cumberland and Salem Counties beginning at the intersection of east bank of the Delaware River and Route 322 near Bridgeport; then southeast on Route 322 to its intersection with Route 45 near Mullica Hill then south on Route 45 to its intersection with Route 77; then south on Route 77 to its intersection with Route 40; then east along Route 40 to its intersection with Route 553; then south along Route 553 to its intersection with Route 49; then west along Route 49 to Bridgeton and its intersection with

the Cohansey River; then south along the west bank of the Cohansey River to its confluence with the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the point of beginning.

Turkey Hunting Area #21

That portion of Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Routes 40 and 553; then east along Route 40 to Lincoln Ave. (Route 655), in Buena Vista: then southwest along Lincoln Ave. to its intersection with Route 55 in Vineland; then south along Route 55 to its intersection with Route 49; then west along Route 49 to the Maurice River; then south along the west bank of the Maurice River to its confluence with Delaware Bay; then west along the Delaware Bay shore to the Cohansey River; then north along the east bank of the Cohansey River to its intersection with Route 49 at Bridgeton; then east along Route 49 to its intersection with Route 553; then north along Route 553 to the point of beginning.

Turkey Hunting Area #22

That portion of Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 55 and Lincoln Avenue (Route 655); then northeast along Lincoln Avenue to its intersection with Wheat Road (Route 619) at Buena; then east on Wheat Road to its intersection with Route 557; then southeast along Rt. 557 to its intersection with Rt. 50; then southeast along Rt. 50 to its intersection with Rt. 9 at Seaville; then south along Rt. 9 to its intersection with Sea Isle Boulevard; then east along Sea Isle Boulevard to the Atlantic Ocean at Sea Isle City; then south along the Atlantic Coast to the Delaware Bay shore then north and west along the shore of Delaware Bay to its intersection with the Maurice River; then north along the east bank of the Maurice River to its intersection with Rt. 49 at Millville; then east along Rt. 49 to its intersection with Rt. 55; then north along Rt. 55 to its intersection with Lincoln Avenue (Route 655) the point of beginning.

Turkey Hunting Regulations

Spring Turkey Hunting Regulations

- 1. Hunting hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 12 noon.
- 2. Hunter orange is **not** required for spring or fall turkey hunting.
- One male wild turkey may be taken with each special wild turkey hunting permit, BUT only one turkey may be taken in a given day. Bearded hens may not be taken.
- 4. Wild turkeys may not be chased or driven in any way.
- 5. No electronic callers may be used during the open season.
- 6. The use of dogs is prohibited during the spring gobbler season.
- 7. Live decoys and electronically operated decoys may not be used to hunt wild turkeys.
- 8. No shot larger than number 4 fine shot or smaller than number 7 1/2 fine shot may be used.
- No shotgun larger than 10 gauge or smaller than 20 gauge may be used for turkey hunting.
- 10. When hunting wild turkey with bow, all arrows must be fitted with an edged head of the following specifications:
 - Minimum width 3/4"
 - Cutting edges must be of well-sharpened metal only
- 11. All bows, except compounds, must have a minimum draw pull weight of 35 pounds at the archer's draw length. Compound bows must have a minimum peak weight of 35 pounds.
- 12. All turkey hunters must have a non-electronic calling device in pos session while turkey hunting.
- 13. Turkey hunters may not stalk or attempt to take a wild turkey by sneaking up on the bird.
- 14. Wild turkeys may not be hunted within 300 feet of bait.
- 15. Turkey hunting groups are limited to five hunters.

Fall Turkey Hunting Regulations

As for spring turkey hunting with the following exceptions:

- 1. The bag limit is one turkey of either-sex.
- 2. Dogs may be used to hunt turkeys during the fall season only.
- 3. Hunting hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
- 4. Driving turkeys is not permitted; however, an individual hunter may rush turkeys for the purpose of causing the flock to scatter.

Mandatory Turkey Check Requirement

All harvested turkeys must be tagged **immediately** with a completed transportation tag. Turkeys must be taken by the person who killed it, on the day killed, to the nearest turkey check station before 3 p.m. during the spring gobbler season and by 7 p.m. during the fall season. Personnel at the check station will issue a legal possession tag. Consult this publication for a listing of official turkey check stations to locate one nearest your hunting area.

Turkey Hunting Seminars

NJ Fish & Wildlife

Southern Region Office 220 Blue Anchor Rd., Sicklerville Camden County Sunday, February 23, 2003, 1:00 p.m. 856-629-0090 Presented by the South Jersey Chapter of The National Wild Turkey Federation

NJ Fish & Wildlife

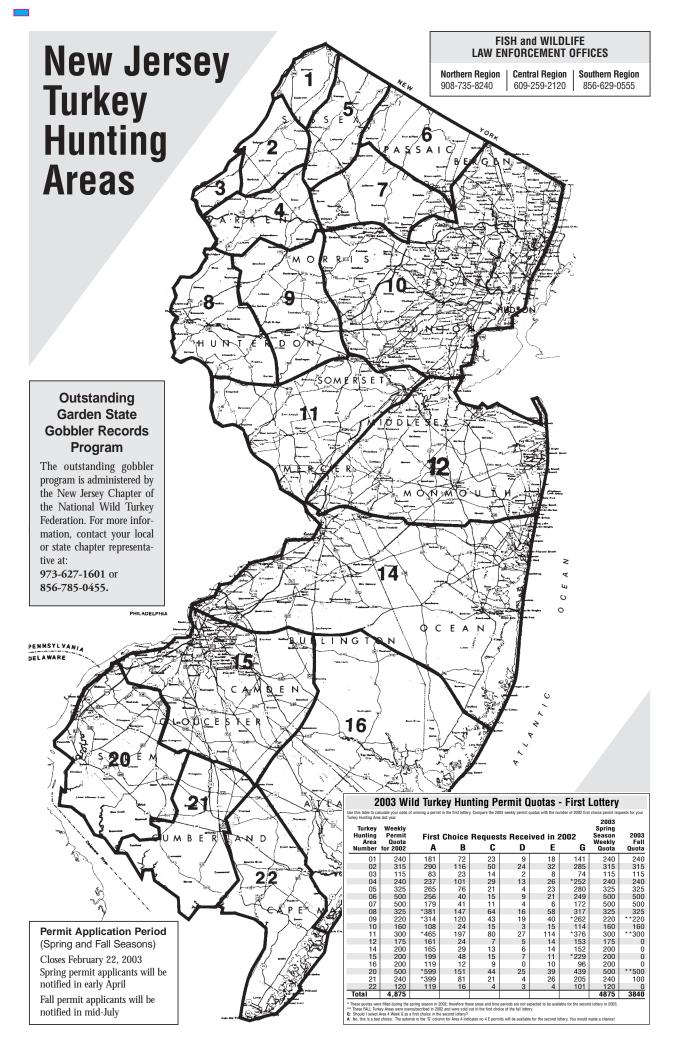
Pequest Trout Hatchery & Natural Resource Education Center Sunday, March 9, 2003, 12:00 -4:00 p.m. Rt. 46, Oxford, Warren County 9 miles west of Hackettstown 908-637-4125

Arrow Archery Co.

597-5 Rt. 49, Bridgeton Cumberland County Sunday, March 16, 2003, 1:00 p.m. 856-453-2855 Presented by the South Jersey Chapter of The National Wild Turkey Federation

Maurice River Sports Center

329 West Main St.
Millville, Cumberland County
Sunday, March 30, 2003, 1:00 p.m.
856-825-5500
Presented by the South Jersey
Chapter of The National Wild
Turkey Federation



Public Turkey Hunting Land In New Jersey

Public Land Open to Hunting

Turkey Hunting Area 1

Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area Flatbrook-Roy WMA Hainesville WMA Stokes State Forest

Turkey Hunting Area 2

Bear Swamp WMA
Delaware Water Gap Nat'l
Recreation Area
Flatbrook-Roy WMA
Paulinskill WMA
Stokes State Forest
Swartswood State Park
Trout Brook WMA
Walpack WMA
White Lake WMA

Turkey Hunting Area 3

Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area Worthington State Forest

Turkey Hunting Area 4

Allamuchy Mountain State Park Beaver Brook WMA Columbia WMA Jenny Jump State Forest Pequest WMA - in Area 9 Stephens State Park Whittingham WMA

Turkey Hunting Area 5

Kittatinny Valley State Park

Turkey Hunting Area 6

Abram Hewitt State Forest Hamburg Mountain WMA Long Pond Ironworks State Park Norvin Green State Forest Ramapo Mountain State Forest Ringwood State Park Wanaque WMA Waywayanda State Park

Turkey Hunting Area 7

Berkshire Valley WMA

Farny State Park Rockaway River WMA Sparta Mountain WMA Weldon Brook WMA Wildcat Ridge WMA

Turkey Hunting Area 8

Clinton WMA Musconetcong River WMA

Turkey Hunting Area 9

Black River WMA
Hacklebarney State Park
Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
Musconetcong River WMA
South Branch WMA
Voorhees State Park

Turkey Hunting Area 10

Black River WMA

Turkey Hunting Area 12

Assunpink WMA
Turkey Swamp WMA

Turkey Hunting Area 11

Alexauken Creek WMA

Turkey Hunting Area 14

Butterfly Bogs WMA
Colliers Mill WMA
Double Trouble State Park
Forked River Mountain WMA
Greenwood Forest WMA
Lebanon State Forest
Manahawkin WMA
Manasquan WMA
Manchester WMA
Medford WMA
Whiting WMA

Turkey Hunting Area 15

Cedar Lake WMA Elmer Lake WMA Glassboro WMA Wharton State Forest White Oak Branch WMA Winslow WMA

Turkey Hunting Area 16

Bass River State Forest
Cape May Wetlands WMA
Great Egg Harbor WMA
Hammonton Creek WMA
Makepeace Lake WMA
Penn State Forest
Port Republic WMA
Stafford Forge WMA
Swan Bay WMA
Tuckahoe WMA
Warren Grove Recreation Area
Wharton State Forest

Turkey Hunting Area 20

Abbotts Meadow WMA
Cohansey River MWA
DOD Ponds WMA
Elmer Lake WMA
Gum Tree Corner WMA
Mad Horse Creek WMA
Maskells Mill Pond WMA
Salem River MWA
Thundergut Pond WMA

Turkey Hunting Area 21

Buckshutem WMA
Cedarville Pond WMA
Cohansey River WMA
Dix WMA
Egg Island WMA
Fortescue WMA
Nantuxent WMA
New Sweden WMA
Millville WMA
Union Lake WMA

Turkey Hunting Area 22

Beaver Swamp WMA
Belleplain State Forest
Cape May Wetlands WMA
Dennis Creek WMA
Heislerville WMA
Higbee Beach WMA
Menantico Ponds WMA
Peaslee WMA
Gibson Creek WMA
Maple Lake WMA

TURKEY CHECK STATIONS

* Denotes station also open for fall season

ATLANTIC

Ted's Taxidermy, 713 Rt. 40, Buena (856) 697-8585 N.E. Hand & Son, 6016 Main St., Mays Landing (609) 625-4941

BURLINGTON

Pine Barrens Stove and Sport Shop, Rt. 72, Chatsworth (609) 726-1550 Mike's Sporting Goods, 1414 Rt. 38, Hainesport (609) 267-7978 Nixon's General Store, Chatsworth and New Rd., Tabernacle (609) 268-9800

Sportsman's Center, Rt. 130, Bordentown* (609) 298-5300

CAMDEN

Atco Sports Center, 177 Atco Ave., Atco (856) 767-9446

CAPE MAY

Belle Plain Supply, 346 Handsville Ave., Belle Plain (609) 861-2345 Fletcher's Corner, 801 Bayshore Rd., Villas (609) 465-4949

CUMBERLAND

Busnardo's Sport Center, 886 North Pearl St., Bridgeton* (856) 451-6272

Blackwater Sports Center , 2228 N. Delsea Dr., Vineland* (856) 691-1571

Maurice River Sports Center, 329 West Main St., Millville (856) 825-5500

Van Meter Archery Co., 597-5 Shiloh Pike (Rt. 49), Bridgeton* (856) 453-2855

GLOUCESTER

A&M Meats, Wolfort Station Rd., Mullica Hill (856) 478-0370

HUNTERDON

Sportsman's Rendezvous, Rt. 31, Speedway Plaza, Flemington* (908) 788-5828

Boan's Marine, 1296 Rt. 179, Lambertville* (609) 397-3311 The Corner Store, Rt. 12 and RT. 519, Baptistown* (908) 996-7648 Carousel Deli and Bakery, Rt. 179 and Wertsville Rd., Ringoes (908) 788-5180

Jim Brown's Auto Body, 1173 Rt. 579, Quakertown* (908) 735-7800

Jugtown Mountain Campsites, 1074 Rt. 173 East, Asbury* (908) 735-5995

MERCER

Trigger and Reel Sport Shop, 60 Arctic Parkway, Ewing* (609) 695-2818

Steve's Bait and Tackle, 10 Seminary Ave., Hopewell* (609) 466-4611

MIDDLESEX

Sayreville Sportsmen, 52 Washington Ave., Sayreville* (732) 238-2060

All Seasons Sports & Taxidermy, 1938 Englishtown Rd., Jamesburg (732) 521-1616

MONMOUTH

Cream Ridge Sports Shop, 445 Rt. 539, Cream Ridge (609) 758-0616

MORRIS

Parsippany Bait and Tackle, 180 Parsippany Rd., Parsippany* (973) 887-3300

The Country Sportsman, 63 Hamburg Turnpike, Riverdale* (973) 839-7622

Buck-N-Bass, Rt. 15, Jefferson* (973) 663-4009

R&S Sports, 3 New Street, Budd Lake* (973) 347-1944

River Run Taxidermy Studio, 99 West Mill Rd., Long Valley* (908) 876-1966

County Line Sport Shop, #10 Rt. 46, Hackettstown* (908) 852-9897

OCEAN

Jackson Sporting Goods, 271 South New Prospect Rd., Jackson (732) 363-1533

Tips Hardware, 218 Main Street, West Creek (609) 296-3192

PASSAIC

Newark Watershed Corporation Office, Echo Lake Rd., Newfoundland* (973) 697-2850

Frank's Bait & Tackle*, 1846 Rt. 23 North, West Milford* (973) 838-7522

SALEM

North American Archery, 439 Rt. 77, Monroeville* (856) 358-8180 Joe and Sandy's Country Store, Main St. and Friendship Rd., Canton* (856) 935-1414

Bradway's Farm Market, Jericho Rd. & Rt. 49, Salem (856) 935-5698

SOMERSET

Hillsborough Shooting Center, 170 Township Line Rd., Belle Meade* (908) 359-0837

Glad-Pack Sunoco, 1 Pottersville Rd., Peapack-Gladstone* (908) 234-1355

SUSSEX

Hainesville General Store, 283 Rt. 206 South, Hainesville* (973) 948-4280

Stokes Sport Shop, 29 Rt. 206 South, Branchville* (973) 948-5448 Simon-Peter Bait and Tackle, Rt. 206 and Brighton Rd., Newton* (973) 786-5313

Stillwater Supply, 90 Stillwater Station Rd., Stillwater* (973) 383-4970

Sig Borstad Hunting Supply, 7 Old Rudetown Rd., McAfee* (973) 827-6527

Mastodon Sport Shop, 34 Highland Lakes Rd., (Rt.638), Vernon* (973) 764-0200

WARREN

Hi-Way Sport Shop, Box 253, Rt. 31 North, Washington* (908) 689-6208 The Owl's Nest, 97 Rt. 519, Warren Glen* (908) 995-7903 The Big K, 606 Rt. 519, Johnsonburg* (908) 459-4487

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
Day	Rise Set	Rise Set	Rise Set	Rise Set	Rise Set	Rise Se						
	A.M. P.M.	A.M. P.M.	A.M. P.M.	A.M. P.M.	A.M. P.M.	A.M. P.M.						
01	0722 0443	0709 0517	0632 0551	0542 0624	0458 0655	0431 0723	0439 0732	0457 0713	0627 0630	0556 0541	0629 0456	0703 0434
02	0722 0444	0708 0518	0631 0552	0541 0625	0457 0656	0431 0723	0434 0732	0458 0712	0628 0629	0557 0539	0630 0455	0704 0433
03	0722 0445	0707 0519	0629 0553	0639 0626	0456 0657	0431 0724	0434 0732	0459 0711	0629 0627	0558 0537	0631 0454	0705 0433
04	0722 0446	0706 0521	0627 0554	0538 0627	0455 0658	0430 0725	0435 0732	0500 0709	0630 0625	0559 0536	0632 0452	0706 0433
06	0722 0447	0706 0522	0626 0556	0536 0628	0453 0659	0430 0725	0436 0732	0501 0708	0631 0624	0600 0534	0634 0451	0707 0433
06 07 08 09	0722 0448 0722 0449 0722 0450 0721 0451 0721 0452	0704 0523 0702 0524 0701 0526 0700 0527 0659 0528	0624 0557 0623 0558 0621 0559 0620 0600 0616 0601	0634 0629 0633 0630 0631 0631 0630 0632 0628 0633	0452 0700 0451 0701 0450 0702 0449 0703 0448 0704	0430 0726 0430 0727 0429 0727 0429 0728 0429 0728	0436 0731 0437 0731 0437 0731 0436 0730 0439 0730	0502 0707 0503 0706 0504 0705 0505 0703 0506 0702	0632 0622 0533 0620 0534 0619 0536 0617 0536 0615	0601 0533 0602 0531 0603 0529 0604 0528 0605 0526	0635 0450 0636 0449 0637 0448 0638 0447 0639 0446	0707 0432 0708 0432 0709 0432 0710 0432 0711 0432
11	0721 0453	0658 0529	0616 0602	0627 0634	0447 0706	0429 0729	0440 0729	0507 0701	0536 0614	0606 0525	0641 0445	0712 0433
12	0721 0454	0657 0530	0615 0603	0625 0635	0446 0706	0429 0729	0440 0729	0508 0700	0537 0612	0607 0523	0642 0444	0712 0433
13	0721 0456	0656 0532	0613 0604	0623 0636	0445 0706	0429 0730	0441 0728	0509 0658	0536 0610	0608 0522	0643 0444	0713 0434
14	0720 0456	0654 0533	0612 0605	0622 0637	0444 0707	0429 0730	0442 0728	0510 0657	0539 0609	0609 0520	0644 0443	0714 0434
15	0720 0457	0653 0534	0610 0606	0620 0638	0443 0708	0429 0730	0442 0727	0511 0656	0540 0607	0610 0519	0645 0442	0715 0434
16	0719 0458	0652 0535	0608 0607	0519 0639	0442 0709	0429 0731	0443 0727	0512 0654	0541 0606	0811 0617	0646 0441	0715 043
17	0719 0459	0650 0536	0607 0608	0517 0640	0441 0710	0429 0731	0444 0726	0512 0653	0542 0604	0612 0516	0647 0440	0716 043
18	0719 0600	0649 0537	0605 0609	0516 0641	0440 0711	0429 0731	0445 0725	0513 0651	0543 0602	0613 0514	0649 0440	0717 043
19	0718 0602	0648 0539	0604 0610	0514 0642	0439 0712	0429 0732	0446 0725	0514 0650	0544 0601	0614 0513	0650 0439	0717 043
20	0718 0603	0646 0540	0602 0611	0513 0643	0439 0713	0430 0732	0447 0724	0515 0648	0545 0559	0615 0611	0651 0438	0718 043
21	0717 0604	0645 0641	0600 0613	0612 0644	0438 0714	0430 0732	0447 0723	0516 0647	0646 0557	0617 0610	0652 0438	0718 043
22	0716 0606	0644 0542	0559 0614	0610 0645	0437 0715	0430 0732	0448 0722	0517 0646	0647 0556	0618 0609	0653 0437	0719 043
23	0716 0606	0642 0543	0567 0615	0609 0646	0436 0716	0430 0732	0449 0721	0518 0644	0648 0554	0619 0607	0654 0437	0719 043
24	0715 0607	0641 0544	0565 0616	0607 0647	0436 0716	0431 0733	0450 0721	0519 0643	0649 0552	0620 0606	0655 0436	0720 043
25	0714 0609	0639 0546	0554 0617	0606 0648	0435 0717	0431 0733	0451 0720	0520 0641	0550 0551	0621 0605	0656 0435	0720 043
26 27 28 29 30 31	0714 0510 0713 0511 0712 0512 0711 0513 0710 0515 0709 0516	0638 0547 0638 0548 0635 0549 0634 0550	0552 0618 0550 0619 0549 0620 0547 0621 0546 0622 0544 0623	0505 0649 0503 0650 0502 0652 0501 0653 0459 0654	0435 0718 0434 0719 0433 0720 0433 0721 0432 0721 0432 0722	0431 0733 0432 0733 0432 0733 0432 0733 0433 0732	0452 0719 0453 0718 0454 0717 0454 0716 0455 0715 0456 0714	0521 0639 0522 0638 0523 0636 0524 0635 0525 0633 0526 0632	0551 0549 0552 0547 0553 0546 0554 0544 0555 0542	0622 0503 0623 0502 0624 0501 0626 0459 0627 0458 0628 0457	0657 0435 0659 0435 0700 0435 0701 0434 0702 0434	0720 0444 0721 0444 0721 044 0721 044 0721 044 0722 044

continued from page 3

If you have not received a permit or notice of non-selection by the above dates, please call. A person not notifying the Division will not receive replacements or refunds for permits that were not deliverable or lost in the mail once the permit has expired.

Over-the-Counter Sale of Leftover Permits

When fewer turkey hunting permit applications are received than the quotas allotted, leftover permits may be available after the lottery selection process is complete. If there are a substantial number of permits leftover, they will be sold to hunters on a first-come, first-served basis. Hunters who have already received permits are also eligible to purchase leftover permits should a surplus occur.

- * Most permits which would have been sold over the counter in the past will be sold through the mail in the second lottery. Applicants are strongly urged to apply during the mail-in period, which closes February 22, 2003.
- * Information on the sale of left over spring season permits will be announced through local newspapers and on the Permit Hotline (609) 292-9192 after March 24, 2003.
- * Leftover spring season permit sales are TENTATIVELY scheduled for Saturday, April 5, 2003, from 9 a.m. 12 noon. Permits will be sold Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. -

- 12 noon and 1 p.m. 4 p.m. at five Division field offices (see page 3) and the Trenton office beginning Monday, April 7, 2003.
- * Remember, the *daily* bag limit is one turkey, even if a hunter possesses more than one permit valid for that day.
- * Hunters need not be present to purchase permits over-the-counter. A person may purchase a permit for a hunter who is unable to attend the over-the-counter sale if they have the absent hunter's valid hunting license. However, a hunter on line is limited to purchasing permits for a maximum of 3 individuals. Photocopies of licenses are NOT acceptable. Hunters on line cannot purchase permits for other hunters on line in order to circumvent the "first-come, first-served" rule.
- * Only one permit per license may be purchased as long as the line remains. If there are an abundance of permits still available for certain areas and periods hunters may be permitted to purchase more than one permit per license for those zones. In that event, those zones will be posted at the entrances of over-the-counter sales locations.

The Division does not anticipate leftover fall season permits after the mail-in lottery. Therefore, no over-the-counter sale of fall season permits is scheduled at this time. If extra permits are available, the sale date will be announced on the Permit Hotline and through the news media.

* * * *

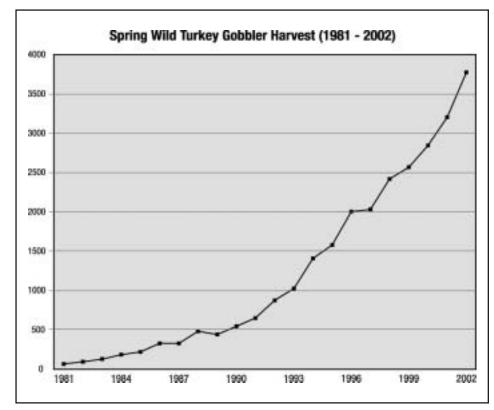
A Time to Reflect on New Jersey's Wild Turkey

Tony McBride, Principal Biologist

Twenty-six years have passed since the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife released twenty-two eastern wild turkeys into northern Sussex County. Those fifteen hens and seven gobblers, with excellent poult production conditions that first spring in 1977, reproduced and thrived in the habitat available to them. At the time, Division biologists, as well as turkey biologists from other states, believed that turkeys would only persist in areas with extensive, uninterrupted forest habitat areas. Intensive monitoring and trapping/ transfer efforts by Division biologists, technicians and volunteers followed. Nearly 1,700 wild turkeys have been trapped and transferred in New Jersey to date.

The birds did so well that by 1981, the Fish and Game Council approved New Jersey's first spring gobbler season. That first season was three weeks in length and was only open in Turkey Hunting Areas 1, 2 and 3 with a total permit quota of 900. The 1981 harvest was 72 gobblers. In contrast, the 2002 spring gobbler season was six weeks in length and was open statewide. More than 29,000 permits were available this past spring and the harvest was 3778 gobblers. Our first youth turkey hunting day was held in 2002 as well, with 152 gobblers taken.

The following graphic presents the New Jersey spring gobbler harvest from 1981 to 2002.



This chart clearly shows the success of turkey restoration efforts through our spring harvest. Since that first season in 1981, increases in turkey populations have led to gradual increases in the length of the spring season, the areas open to turkey hunting, and the number of permits available. These factors, in combination with an increasing number of turkey hunters over the years, resulted in the harvest increases over time.

Eastern wild turkeys were far more adaptable than was believed in 1977, and even in a state such as New Jersey, wild turkeys surpassed expectations.

As you enter the woods this spring, think about the restoration of the wild turkey in New Jersey. Think about the many hours put in by devoted personnel and volunteers who helped to trap and transfer birds about the state. Think about the fact that you have the opportunity, in this populated area of the country, to hunt in New Jersey's woodlands and harvest such a wary and magnificent gamebird. Realize that these birds are now here for everyone to enjoy.

And most of all, be proud that you and your sporting colleagues were responsible for financing the entire effort!



Trapping wild turkeys in Frankford Township, Sussex County.

Special Spring Turkey Season/Fall Turkey Season Permit Application

Public Law 1998c1 "The Child Support Program Improvement Act" requires that we collect your Social Security Number on this application. No permit will be issued without it. Conserve our natural resources. Please photocopy for additional applications.

	First Name (Only one hunter per application)	M.I. Last Name	
Day Year	Please Print or Type		
Mailing Address		City	State
	Telephone Number 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Social Security Number*	Firearm or Archery License Number or Hunter Ed. Certificate Number for Youths
First Lottery Amount Paid	SPRING SEASON FIRST LOTTERY First Choice Second Choice Hunting Area Hunting Area	Third Choice Third Choice	ADULT PRICE First Lottery Price Amount Paid \$2.1.00 \$
Second Lottery Amount Paid \$	SPRING SEASON SECOND LOTTERY First Choice Second Choice Hunting Area Hunting Period Hunting Area	Third Choice Third Choice Hunting Period Third Choice Third Choice	Second Lottery Price Amount Paid \$21.00 \$
Fall Season Lottery Amount Paid 8	FALL SEASON LOTTERY (HUNTING AREAS 1, Second Choice Second Choice N N N Hunting Area Hunting Period Hunting Area	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Fall Season Lottery Price Amount Paid \$21.00 \$\$
Total Amount to Pay \$	NEW HUNTERS Have applied for Hunter Education course. Enter all 8's in License Number Box YOUTH HUNTERS 199 /200 Hunting License Number Hunter Education Certification Number	ENTER ONIX ONE HUNTER PER APPLICATION Mail applications and permit fees to: New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife PO Box 003 Trenton, NJ 08625-0003	Total Amount to Pay \$

2003 Turkey Hunting Permit Application nstructions

- 1. Name and Address: Enter your name, address, telephone number and birth date. Type or print clearly.
- Hunting License Number: Enter your 2003 Hunting License Number Hunters may apply with either a firearm or archery license and may hunt with either one. Remember, submit only one application or the computer will reject all of your applications! If you are under 16 years of age, enter your hunting license number from a previous year or your hunter education certificate number or Youth Hunting License number in the box. Due to changes required on these applications. If you have applied for a hunter education course, enter "888888888" in hunting license format, turkey stubs are no longer

in the Hunting License Number box.

through 11, 20 and 21.

- Area Choice: Complee the spaces for your first, second, and third choice turkey hunting area and period (4, B, C, D, E and G). Do not select the more popular areas as your second or third choice. Select carefully, you will not be re-assigned. Youths only 3. Spring Season First Lottery Turkey Hunting need to enter their first choice area and period.
- Hunting Choice: Complete this section ONIX if you want a second turkey permit. Remember: do not 4. Spring Season Second Lottery Turkey apply for over-subscribed areas.

season must include a total of \$63.00.

Complete the spaces for your first, second and third choice turkey hunting area. Turkey hunting areas open for the 2003 fall season are Areas 1 Fall Season Lottery Turkey Hunting Choice:

applications. 6. Deadline: Do not wait until the last minute to submit applications. Your application must be postmarked by February 22, 2003. \$12.00 per youth permit (under age 16) in the form of a check or money order made payable to the IM Permit Fee: A \$21.00 fee per adult permit or

covered by that check will be returned. Division of Fish and Wildlife must accompany your application. The fee is \$21.00 (adult) or \$12.00 (youth) for each lottery Adults applying in both the spring season first and second lotteries and the fall 8. Youth and new hunters: Youths under the age of 16 and those who have applied for a hunter education course should check the appropriate box.

Irenton, NJ 08625-0003 Remember: Submit only one application for turkey hunting permits. If you forget to include your cleck or complete information on your application, it will be returned for correction. Do not send in a second application, Sending in more than one application will result in the disqualification of all of your

- form if several hunters' applications are mailed in the same envelope. If one application among those covered by one check is incorrect, all applications 10. Note: Include your full name and address on rate checks or money orders with each application checks and money orders. It is best to submit sepa-
- 11. Mailing: Use a legal, business-sized 9 1/2 x 4 1/2 inch envelope.

- Mail applications and permit fees to: M Division of Fish and Wildlife
 - PO Box 003
- one adult permit, \$42.00 for two adult permits, \$63.00 for three adult permits or \$12.00 for one * Be certain to enclose your permit fee (\$21.00 for youth permit, \$24.00 for two youth permits; \$36.00 for three youth permits) with your application.
 - * Incorrect applications will be returned for revision.
 *All checks received with correct applications will be cashed.
 - notice of non-selection and a refund at a later date. selected to receive a permit, you will receive a * If your application is correct, but you are not